4/19/68

Dear Hal,

Unless you planned to leave the Bay area anyway, I regret you did not consult me prior to making your decisions, for there now is little prospect of an immediate trial, from what I was able to learn in New Orleans, which I left only Monday of this week. When the available technicalities are exploited, I think it is well within the capability of federal power to prevent a trial until at least after the election.

However, if you want to go there before the trial, I'll let you know when next I'm going to be there-if I can-in advance. I've not planned any of my recent trips. In each case Jim phoned and asked if I'd come down and help. In each case I've dropped everything and done it. And, I'm happy to say, in each case the results have been exciting. If what I developed on this last trip holds up, there is a book in that alone!

My intention of offering you sleeping accomodations with me still stands, but recently that would have been complicated. The last two trips I have been interviewing women in my room until late at night (and doing nothing else with them). When this happens, if we are together, I have no doubt I can improvise something else. This last time the woman, who I suspect had been on some kind of stimulant, just pooped out after I'd finished intercogating her, fell asleep on my bed, and slept there. I sat in my clothes, a not very comfortable night.

If you go back east, visiting us will not be far out of your way. We have the sleeping space and you'd be more than welcome. We are almost in Frederick, if you look at a map. And, if you do not mind bad hours, it is two hours to the Archives by bus on days I do not go to Washington (which is most days now). Jim will be here in a couple of weeks and I'll see if there is anything he wants checked out there. There are some things I'm interested in and do not have time for. I haven't been able to do anything on Post Mortem in seven months. It is typed for the camera and I need only make a few additions to the last chapter, write an epilogue tie the appendix in.

If you leave, of course, I'll miss all the fine arrangements you've been making for me. John has been totally silent. I asked him for the money he promised to make up when he but in at ABC. Incidently, will you please ask for the balance of what is due me from 1966's trip. Money is an increasingly-serious problem with me. Our situation will soon be desparate.

On Harv: I do not even have his address.

I am not confident that I understand what Bobby is up to. He is not th kind of guy to engage in self-destruction. Jones Harris says it is because of allthe guns between him and the election!

What you sent of the Blue Shirts is immediately exciting. Whether or not Steve got to see Jim, I've made a copy and sent it for several reasons not immediately apparent to you. Perhaps even today there will be a special reporter here from the London Times, which sent him to this country just to do definitive work on King. I've indicated some of the NSRP stuff by phone, stemming from Preliminary Postscript From Miami in O. in N.O. and he seems interested. Therefore, please send everything possible as soon as possible. Of the two things on this Paul gave me in February, the people in L.A. kept one when I gave them to them to copy. I have the FBI Brown-Drennan report, which is also in a second file, the copy of which I also have. But there was part of a tabulation, something in outline form, that was not returned.

My interest in Courtney may wane. I have some good sources, people who once worked for him. He ran a campaign to blockade Cuba which aborted when that was done. He had an "agent" working for him in Europe, arranged for Walker's defense after Oxford, published him, and many other things. That literature that was found on Pine street that the police immediately attributed to Reissman was just as close to Courtney's home and them- possible interest. I've been able to borrow copies of the book you cite and three others he published. But anything you have can be worthwhile. Be certain if anything is to be returned, the name is written on it.

What you say about Varney jogs my memory. I once had an extensive file on him. I think he had a connection with a Russian fascist, Vonsiatsky. Professor Tansill was an open fascist when a professor of history at American University, in the graduate school in the late 30s, as I recall it. This is to serve Jim's interest, and I am confident it is not immediate, so do not extend yourself on the things. When there is time, a full file would be valuable.

I have a tremenduous amount of work to do following my recent investigations, perhaps 12 hours of tape to transcribe, and a lot of time to devote to analyzing them and drafting reports. This in addition to what has kept me busy.

Recently I sent Paul a list of names. I asked him not to mention them on the phone. That, I would say, is of immediate top priority. I hope you can find a way of helping. I should know what is available as fast as possible. If there is anything that seems to relate to any of them, no matter how indirectly, I want it. There is in them a clue that will mean something to you. The odd name is the most important. Also, if you have any clues on any CIA types in N.O., even if just rumors, I'd like them. One is now in the booby-hatch and really mad. Now things can fit as they didn't earlier. Regards to everyone, best

Also, if you have time to go over Philip Geraci, Blalock, etc., inc. Bringuier, and try and spot what might indicate prior connection, lies, a different association-anything wrong or seemingly wrong, please do it as soon as possible.